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2 September 1952

To: [redacted] 1301 "I" Bldg.  
From: [redacted] FDD  
Subject: Comments on USSR Area Program

The following comments and suggestions are offered in the hope that this program which was started this summer will be continued.

This particular program was useful insofar as it provided a common denominator for the more specialized knowledge of individual analysts. However this usefulness was also limited by the rather general presentation. A more specific breakdown of the program in various subjects would give a greater relevancy to actual work problems of analysts. It is therefore important that lecturers selected for such a program have more than a mere secondhand knowledge, i.e., are familiar with primary sources on the subject of their lecture. It may even be possible to select people from within the agency to assist lecturers from the outside.

One deficiency was noted. None of the lecturers ventured into current or at least postwar historical discussion. Also it would be beneficial if students were required to do reasonable outside work for the course.

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